

Early Minutes of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina

State of North Carolina

At a Grand Lodge of the Ancient
and Honorable Society of Free and
Accepted Masons held at Hills-
borough on the 23rd. day of July,
Era Masonry, 5788.

PRESENT

The Most Worshipful, His Excellency,

Samuel Johnston, esquire Grand Master.

The Right Worshipful, The Honble Richard Caswell, esquire
Deputy Grand Master.

The Right Worshipful Michael Payne, Esquire Grand Sen.
Warden pt.

The Right Worshipful John Mare Esquire Grand Junior
Warden pt.

The Right Worshipful Abner Neale, Esquire Grand Tres.

The Right Worshipful James Glasgow Esquire Secretary of
the State Grand Secretary

The Right Worshipful John Johnston Esquire W. Master of
the Royal Edwin No. 4 Sen. Deacon.

Brother Winston Caswell Jun. Warden of the Kinston Lodge
No. 3 Jun. Deacon.

The Right Worshipful

Stephen Cabarrus of Unanimity.

Joseph Leech of St. Johns No. 2.

William Randal of Kinston No. 3.

Frederick Harget of Kinston No. 3.

Andrew Oliver of Royal Edwin No. 4.

Tho. Hunter of Royal Edwin No. 4.

Past Masters.

Peter Goodwin Tyler

On Motion made and Seconded Resolved, That the Right
Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Grand Junior Warden
and Grand Secretary be a Committee to frame Bye Laws
for the Government of this Lodge and report the same to-
morrow 5 O'clock, P. M.

The Most Worshipful laid before the Lodge a letter from
the Committee of Correspondence—Appointed by the Grand
Lodge in Virginia inclosing Sundry Resolutions and the
names of the Officers of the said Lodge, requesting a friend-
ly Correspondence with this Lodge, also, a letter in answer
thereto inclosing a List of Names of the Officers of this

Lodge. Resolved, this Lodge highly approved thereof and that the thanks of the Same be presented to the Grand Master for his attention thereto.

Resolved that Brothers Joseph Leech, Winston Caswell and the Secretary, be a Committee of Correspondence.

Resolved, That the Treasurer procure jewells for the several officers of this Lodge also a Seal Square and Compass.

The Lodge was then closed until 5 O'clock P. M. tomorrow.

Thursday 5 O'clock P. M. July 24th. A. L. 5788

The Lodge was opened in due form.

Present the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Brothren, also Brother Charles Johnston, P. M. from Unanimity.

The Committee appointed to prepare Bye Laws and rules for the Government of this Lodge having prepared the same reported as follows to wit:

1st. That a Grand Lodge be held on the third Monday in November annually at such place as the most Worshipful Grand Master shall appoint.

2nd. That every member shall annually pay the Sum of forty Shillings to the General Fund which payment shall commence on the annual Lodge day and any Brother hereafter becoming a Member shall be subject to the payment of the Sum of three pounds on his admission.

3rd. That every Private Lodge shall pay into the Treasury of this Lodge the sum of Ten Pounds annually to be applied to Charitable and other uses as this Lodge shall from time to time shall direct, and also shall annually transmit by the Master and Wardens, or such as may attend, the Names of the Present Members, and of those who may hereafter be admitted into their respective Lodges with the times and places of their usual meeting, together, also a Copy of their bye Laws and regulations and such extracts from their journals and proceedings as may be thought necessary.

4thly. That there shall be paid into the Treasury for every Charter or Warrant for holding a New Lodge the sum of Ten Pounds, for every Charter renewed forty shillings for each member entered in any Lodge the sum of ten shillings for passing such member five shillings and for raising five shillings which shall be annually accounted for and sent up by the respective Lodges.

5thly. That the Treasurer shall keep fair and regular Ac-

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count of all Monies by him received and paid away and shall at the annual meeting lay the same with his Vouchers before the Lodge for their Inspection and Adjustment and on the Treasurer's being superseded in office he shall immediately pay into the hands of his Successor the Ballance which may appear to be due from him to the Lodge.

6thly. That the Several Private Lodges Transmit to the Secretary of this Lodge a Copy of their Charter—That they may be arranged according to their respective No. and dates.

7thly.That the Secretary shall issue Summons for the Members of the Lodges to attend at such times and places as the Grand Master shall appoint.

8thly.That if any Member shall leave the Lodge without permission of the Master he shall pay the Sum of Five Shillings.

9thly. That these laws be entered in a bound Book and signed by every Member on his admission who shall thereafter be entitled to vote.

State of North Carolina

At a Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and
Honorable Society of Free and Accepted
Masons held at Fayetteville the seven-
teenth day of November A. D. 1788 & A. L.
5788

PRESENT.

The Most Worshipful, His Excellency.

Samuel Johnston Esquire G. M.

The Right Worshipful Major General.

Richard Caswell Esquire D. G. M.

The R. W. Joseph Leech G. S. W.

The R. W. Charles Johnston G. J. W.

Pro tempore

The R. W. S. W. Arnett G. S. D.

The R. W. Good Davis G. J. D.

The Right Worshipful, The Honorable James Glasgow Esq.
Secretary of State, Grand Secretary.

The Worshipful Joseph Douglass

Worshipful William Randal

P. M.

Worshipful Frederick Hargett

The Worshipful John Armstrong M. of Old Cone

Worshipful Stephen Cabarrus J. W. of Unanimity

The Lodge being opened in due form, Brother Charles Johnston of Unanimity, and Bros. S. W. Arnett, P. Masters, on application Subscribed the Laws and Regulations of the Lodge, and were admitted Members thereof.

The R. W. D. Grand Master informed the most Worshipful that Stephen Cabarrus & Wm. Johnston Dawson of Unanimity, Brothers James Porterfield and John Winslow of Union Fayette, & Brother John Armstrong of Salisbury were desirous of passing the Chair, and moved that he would be pleased to order a Lodge to be held for the purpose which he was pleased to order accordingly.

The Lodge was then closed for One hour.

Seven O'clock A. M. ead. die.

The Lodge was opened in due form.

The R. W. D. G. Master informed the Most Worshipful, that Brothers Cabarrus, Dawson, Porterfield, Winslow & Armstrong had severally passed the Chair, in a Lodge, which he was pleased to order to be held for that purpose. Whereupon the said Stephen Cabarrus, Wm. Johnston Dawson, James Porterfield, John Winslow and John Armstrong,

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were introduced, and on their application, signed the Laws and Regulations of The Lodge, and were admitted members thereof.

Brother Gooderum Davis P. M. and Master of the Royal White Hart Lodge Halifax, on applying and subscribing the Laws and Regulations, was also admitted a Member.

Read the Petition of Benjamin Douglass and others in Caswell County praying a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the said County, also, the Petition of James Witherow and others in Rutherford County praying a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the said County.

Ordered that Brother Arnett, Porterfield & Davis, be a Committee to examine such of the Petitioners as are in Town and Report accordingly.

On Motion, Resolved that Brothers Porterfield & Winslow have a Dinner provided for the Members of this Lodge, and invite the several Brothern in Town thereto.

On Motion, The Nomination of Grand Officers for the ensuing Year then came on, when the R. W. D. G. Master, requested The Most Worshipful to honor the Lodge with his continuance in Office the ensuing year, which he declined. The Mo. Worshipful then Nominated the R. W. D. G. Master to the Chair. Brothers John Johnston & Good Davis were nominated D. G. Masters. Brothers Michael Payne and Stephen Cabarrus G. S. W., Brother S. W. Arnett G. J. W. Bros. Abner, Neale, G. Treasurer & Bros. James Glasgow & Wm. Johnston Dawson, G. Secretary.

On Motion Ordered, that the Balloting for the Grand Officers be at five o'clock tomorrow.

Lodge was then closed until 5 o'clock tomorrow.

Tuesday 18th, November A. L. 5789 (5788 sic)

The Grand Lodge was then opened in due form. Present as before.

Brothers Arnett and Porterfield the Committee appointed to examine Benjamin Douglass and the members from the County of Caswell who had petitioned for a Lodge in the said County. Report, that he is a Master Mason and that he avouches for the Suscribing Persons. They farther Report, that they had examined James Witherow who had petitioned among others, to hold a Lodge in the County of Rutherford, that he is a Master Mason and avouches for the subscribing persons. Ordered, that warrants be issued to

said Petitioners agreeably to the prayer of their Petition.

The Most Worshipful laid before the Lodge the Petition of the Brothers in Fayetteville, praying a renewal of their Charter for holding a Lodge in the Said Town, under the name of Phoenix Lodge of Fayetteville, and to appoint James Porterfield Master, John Winslow, S. W., and Thomas Davis J. W. which was granted accordingly.

The Lodge according to Order proceeded to Ballot for the Grand Officers for the ensuing Year, when the Right Worshipful Richard Caswell was elected Grand Master. The R. W. Michael Payne D. G. Master, the R. W. James Glasgow G. S. W., The R. W. S. W. Arnett G. J. W. The R. W. Stephen Cabarrus, Grand Treasurer, and the R. W. Wm. Johnston Dawson G. Secretary.

The Lodge was then closed in due form until 1-2 past eight tomorrow morning.

Wednesday 19th, November A. L. 5788 9 O'clock A. M.

The Lodge opened in due form.

On application of Alexander Martin & John Libby, esquires, who are Fellow Crafts, praying to be admitted to the most honorable Degree of a Master Mason. Ordered that a Lodge be held for that purpose on Friday Evening.

The Lodge then proceeded to the Installation of the Grand Officers, when the Most Worshipful Richard Caswell esquire was installed Grand Master, and placed in the Chair. The R. Worshipful Michael Payne esquire, D. G. Master. The R. W. James Glasgow esquire, G. S. Warden. The R. W. S. W. Arnett esq. G. J. W. The R. W. Stephen Cabarrus esq. G. Treasurer, and the R. W. Wm. Johnston Dawson, G. Secretary, according to the Ancient and Honorable Institution.

The Lodge was then closed till 2 Oclk. P. M.

Two o'clock ead: die: The Lodge opened in due form.

Brother Cabarrus informed the Most Worshipful, that a dinner was prepared at Mr. Barges Tavern agreeably to order, and Moved, seconded by Br. Arnette, that a number of visitant Brethern who were attending for that purpose, should be invited to join the procession. When,

Brothers Joseph Douglass, Henry Montfort, Duncan McAuslan, James Robertson, Benjamin Douglass, Thomas Stewart, Wm. McCauly, Richard Singleton, Peter Perry, Alexander Dronegoole, James Witherow, Ambrose Ramsey,

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John Kingsborough, William Porter, Guilford Dudley, A. Hodge, Thomas Davis, William Randal, Fredk. Hargett, Isaac Gregory, Alexander Martin, William Goudy, Curtis Ivey, Edward Jones, John Sibley, and John Macon, were accordingly introduced and joined the Procession, which moved on to Mr. Barges Tavern, where the evening was spent with the greatest Harmony, Festivity and Decorum; after which, the Brethern returned in the same order to the Lodge Room, and respectively retired.

Thursday 20th, November 7 o'clock P. M.

The Lodge was opened in due form.

On application, Brother John Macon suscribed the Laws, and became a Member of this Lodge.

Read a Petition of Jordan Hill and Nicholas Murphy, praying to be initiated into the Secrets of Free Masonry, whereupon it was unanimously agreed, that they be recommended to the Phoenix Lodge of Fayetteville.

On Motion of Brother Johnson, seconded by Brother Arnett, Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to write to the several Brethern who are Royal Arch Masons, inviting them to attend the Grand Lodge to be held at Tarborough on the 24th. day of June next, for the purpose of receiving such members, as may be desirous of being promoted to that Degree if they think proper to receive them.

That he also write to the several Lodges, requiring a Deputation of one or more Officers of their respective Lodges, to attend at the same time.

And, that he transmit copies of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, to each of the Lodges in the State, as far as they may relate to their private Government, and to request that they will comply with the same.

Brother Johnson seconded by Br. Macon, moved that Brother Cabarrus, our present Treasurer, be requested to write to our preceding Treasurer, for the Statement of his account with the Grand Lodge, and to be informed whether he has provided the Jewels, agreeably to the Resolve passed by them at Hillsborough which if he has failed to do, Bro. Cabarrus is requested to procure, which was agreed to.

Brother Cabarrus, seconded by Brother Macon, moved that Brothers Charles Johnson, Samuel Johnston & Michael Payne, be a committee to superintend the engraving of a

Seal for this Lodge. Agreed to.

Brother John Armstrong, presented, a Petition from sundry Brethern in and near Salisbury, praying a Warrant to hold a Lodge at that place by the name of "Old Cone" which was granted, and the Worshipful Brothers James Craig, appointed Master Alexn. Dobbins, Sen. Warden, and John Armstrong, Jun. Warden.

Brother Arnett, seconded by Brother Cabarrus, moved that Brother Goodwin be appointed Tyler to the Grand Lodge, which was unanimously agreed to.

Brother Arnette, seconded by Brother Johnson, moved, that the Treasurer be directed to pay unto Brothers Peter Goodwin & William Murphey, the sum of forty shillings each for their services to the Lodge,—Unanimously agreed to.

On Motion of Brother Johnson, seconded by Brother Leech.

RESOLVED. That each member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to a Certificate thereof, which shall entitle him, to admission into any Lodge within this State, and to all the Rights, and Privileges, which the Members of such Lodges respectively possess: and that this Resolve be added to the Regulations made at Hillsborough, and transmitted with them, agreeably to the Order for that purpose.

The Lodge was then closed in due form until the twenty fourth day of June Next.

W. J. Dawson, G. S.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

At a Grand Lodge held at Newbern on
the 28th day of December A. L. 5788.

Present

M. W. The Grand Master	R. W. F. Stringer R. A.
R. W. S. W. Arnett. S. G. W. pro tem:	R. W. B. Clinch R. A.
W. Jas. Leech. J. G. W. pro tem:	W. Jas. Ellis R. A.
W. John Craddock G. T. pro tem:	
W. Ben. Manchester. G. S. pro tem:	
W. Edward Pasteur S. D.	R. W. J. Guion P. M.
W. Wm. Johnston. J. D.	R. W. James Carney Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form.

The Rules and Regulations proposed for the Government of this Lodge were read and confirmed.

A Petition from Brothers Hunter, Bryan, Conroy, Travers,

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Davis and Moore for granting them a Charter to hold a Lodge at Williamston in the County of Martin, by the name of St. Tamany Lodge, was read and agreed to.

Ordered that the Grand Secretary grant a Dispensation for holding the said Lodge until June Next, by which time a Charter can be made out.

Brothers Guion, Stringer, Clinch & James Ellis requested their names to be enrolled on the Books of this Lodge which was agreed to.

The Lodge was then closed till tomorrow at 5 o'clock. P.M.
December 29th, A. L. 5788.

Present

R. W. S. W. Arnett G. M. pro tem:

W. Isaac Guion S. G. W. pro tem:

W. B. Clinch J. G. W. pro tem:

J. F. Smith Visitor &

W. Jno. Craddock G. T. Pro tem:

T. Thompson P. Master.

W. B. Manchester G. S. Pro tem:

R. W. F. Stringer J. D.

R. W. James Ellis (Tyler)

The Lodge being opened in due form, the Minutes of the last Night were read & confirmed.

Brothers Smith & Thompson being proposed, and accepted as Members of this Lodge, suscribed their names to the Rules of the same, as also the Brothren admitted last evening. No further business coming before the Lodge, it was closed till the second Wednesday in March.

At a Grand Lodge held at Newbern the 12th day of
March A. L. 5789.

Present

The Most Worshipful Grand Master. R. W. Edw. Whitley

The R. W. Jas. Glasgow S. G. W.

R. W. W. Caswell

R. W. S. W. Arnett J. G. W.

R. W. J. Craddock

R. W. Bat. Clinch Tr. Pro tem:

R. W. J. F. Smith

R. W. B. Manchester S. Pro tem:

R. W. Jas. Thompson

R. W. F. Stringer S. D.

R. W. Jacob Cooke

R. W. Jas. Ellis J. D.

R. W. Jas. Leech

James Arantz Tyler

The Lodge being opened in due form, Brothers Cook & Whitley, were proposed, and accepted, as Members of this Lodge, & subscribed their names to the Rules of the Same.

Brother Guion, seconded by Brother Glasgow, proposed for the Government of this Lodge, at the meeting at Hills-

borough, on the 24th of July last, and report any alterations they may conceive necessary, as also, any additional By Laws, they may deem requisite at our next meeting to be at Tarborough, the 24th of June next.

Brothers Guion, Clinch and Manchester were unanimously appointed for the purpose.

The Lodge was then closed, until the 24th day of June next.

(Signed)

Benja. Manchester S. Pro tem.